

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 HEW-06

ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 L-03

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R 161037Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6883

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 PARIS 01411

NESCO

USMISSION GENEVA FOR BINDA

WASHINGTON FOR HEW/USOE:LEESTMA

E.O. 1165W N/A

TAGS/ OCON, AORG, IBE, UNESCO

SUBJECT: 13TH SESSION INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF  
EDUCATION (IBE) COUNCIL GENEVA, 6-8 JANUARY 1976

REF: GENEVA 109

SUMMARY: THIS CABLE IS INTENDED TO GIVE DEPARTMENT  
(DEPT), USNATCOM AND USOE HIGHLIGHTS OF SUBJECT IBE  
COUNCIL MEETING. MORE DETAILED WRITTEN REPORT INCLUDIN  
WORKING PAPERS, IBE SUMMARY OF DELIBERATIONS AND  
BUDGET WILL BE FORWARDED SHORTLY. COUNCIL ATMOSPHERE  
WAS POSITIVE AND FREINDLY. IT CONCENTRATED ON SUBSTANTIVE  
AGENDA. NO POLITICAL ISSUES WERE RAISED.

ITEMS OF MOST INTEREST OF US DISCUSSED BY COUNCIL  
WERE: (1) AN ATTEMPT TO INCREASE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE  
IBE COUNCIL; (2) CLARIFICATION OF SPECIAL THEME OF THE  
1977 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION (ICE) AND  
SELECTION OF THEME FOR 1979 ICE TO BE PRESENTED TO GENERAL  
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CONFERENCE FOR APPROVAL; (3) PLANNED ASSESSMENT OF

IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL REPORTING SERVICE (IERS); (4) RECOMMENDED REVISIONS TO MEDIUM-TERM PROJECTION OF PROGRAM 1977-82 (C.XIII/4) AND DRAFT PROGRAM AND BUDGET 1977-78 (C.XIII/5), AND (6) RECOMMENDED REGULAR BUDGET EXPENDITURE FOR 1977-78 OF \$1,978,142 (INCREASE OF 5.8 PERCENT OVER 1975-76). ISSUES DISCUSSED BY US REP IN PRIVATE MEETING WITH IBE DIRECTOR FERNIG WERE (1) POSSIBILITIES OF US RE-ELECTION TO IBE COUNCIL AT UNESCO GENERAL CONFERENCE WHEN PRESENT TERM EXPIRES IN OCTOBER 1976; (2) INTENDED FUNDING OF INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE OFFICE (IBO), AND (3) PROFESSOR HAVELOCK AS US CONSULTANT TO FEBRUARY MEETING ON PREPARATION OF DOCUMENTS FOR 1977 ICE. END OF SUMMARY.

1. FOLLOWING IS REPORT OF IBE DIRECTOR ON ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED DURING 1975 (C.XIII/2):

A) COUNCIL MEMBERS EXPRESSED GENERAL SATISFACTION WITH 1975 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION (ICE) AND ITS RESULTS, BUT EXPRESSED NEED FOR FUTURE CONFERENCES (1) TO FOCUS ON SPECIFIC TOPICS WITH SOLICITATION OF VIEWS WELL IN ADVANCE AND (2) TO RESERVE TIME FOR GENERAL POLICY STATEMENTS TO ASSURE CONTINUED PARTICIPATION OF MINISTERS OF EDUCATION.

B) COUNCIL WILL DECIDE AT A LATER DATE WHETHER TO CONTINUE TEACHERS' ORGANIZATIONS' PARTICIPATION IN ICE AND/OR TO INVITE OTHER GROUPS.

2. ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED FOR 1976 (C.XIII/3) ARE:

A) AMBASSADOR AGBLEMAGNON, PRESIDENT OF IBE COUNCIL, WILL PRESENT A REPORT ON IBE'S ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED DURING 1975-76 TO 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE. REPORT WILL CONTAIN A FACTUAL REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES, ATTEMPT TO EVALUATE IMPACT OF BUREAU'S WORK, AND IDENTIFY FUTURE TRENDS. A DRAFT IS TO BE CIRCULATED TO COUNCIL MEMBERS BY LATE JUNE.

B) COUNCIL DISCUSSED GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTORAL SEATS IN IBE COUNCIL. AS STATED IN REFTEL IRAQ MADE RECOMMENDATION TO INCREASE SIZE OF COUNCIL  
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FROM 21 TO 30 MEMBERS. THIS MOTION WAS SUPPORTED BY ARAB AND AFRICAN REPS. US AND WESTERN EUROPEAN REPS OPPOSED ANY INCREASE. BRAZIL PROPOSED A COMPROMISE OF 25 MEMBERS WHICH WAS GENERALLY SUPPORTED BY LATIN AMERICA AND OTHERS. FERNIG EFFECTIVELY CUT OFF DEBATE BY STATING THAT SUBJECT WAS NOT AN APPROPRIATE ONE FOR THE COUNCIL TO DISCUSS. HOWEVER, THERE IS REFERENCE MADE TO THE DISCUSSION IN THE IBE SUMMARY OF DELIBERATIONS, SO

SUBJECT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE BROUGHT BEFORE EXECUTIVE BOARD DURING ITS SPRING SESSION.

C) IN PRIVATE SESSION WITH FERNIG US REP RAISED RUSH

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R 161037Z JAN 76  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6884  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 PARIS 01411

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USMISSION GENEVA FOR BINDA  
WASHINGTON FOR HEW/USOE : LEESTMA

E.O. 11652: N/A

QUESTION OF US MEMBERSHIP ON IBE COUNCIL WHICH EXPIRES IN OCTOBER 1976. FERNIG SUGGESTED US MAKE IT KNOWN TO DG AND ADG FOR EDUCATION AT SOME EARLY TIME THAT IT WISHES TO BE RE-ELECTED TO COUNCIL. FERNIG FELT IT WAS MOST IMPORTANT TO IBE'S WORK THAT US REMAIN ON COUNCIL; HOWEVER, US RE-ELECTION NO LONGER ASSURED DUE TO GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENT AND DESIRE OF OTHER EUROPEAN REGION MEMBER STATES, E.G., UK AND FRANCE, TO RETURN TO COUNCIL.

D) COUNCIL ADDED SIXTEEN TOPICS TO LIST OF SUBJECTS FOR IBE BULLETIN. ADDITIONAL LIST TO FOLLOW IN US REP'S REPORT.

E) COUNCIL APPROVED PROPOSED IBE SECRETARIAT CALENDAR FOR PREPARATION OF 1977 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION. BECAUSE THEME, "THE PROBLEM OF INFORMATION AT THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS WHICH IS POSED UNCLASSIFIED

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BY THE IMPROVEMENT OF EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS", AS ADOPTED BY 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE COULD NOT BE CHANGED, SECRETARIAT DEVELOPED AN INTERPRETIVE PAPER (C.XIII/INF. 1) WHICH WAS AMENDED BY THE COUNCIL. (THIS DOCUMENT ANSWERS QUESTIONS POSED IN, AND NOW AGREES WITH, US POSITION PAPER ON SUBJECT.) QUESTIONNAIRE CONCERNING MAJOR TRENDS IN EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT WILL BE SENT MEMBER STATES BY APRIL 1976. SECRETARIAT WILL PREPARE OUTLINE OF WORKING PAPER ON MAJOR TRENDS IN OCTOBER-NOVEMBER FOR PRESENTATION AT NEXT SESSION OF COUNCIL.

F) DUE TO LACK OF FUNDS, IBE DIRECTOR DOES NOT PLAN TO INVITE CONSULTANT FROM US BUT PLANS TO USE DR. JULES HAVELOCK (NOW IN RESIDENCE AT IBE) AS US CONSULTANT TO MARCH (NOT FEBRUARY) MEETING ON PREPARATION OF CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS.

3. ACTIVITIES FORESEEN IN 1976 FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION REPORTING SERVICE (IERS)(C.XIII/3 ADD.) ARE:

A) COUNCIL NOTED THAT CONTRIBUTING AGENCIES WOULD EVALUATE SERVICE TO DETERMINE IF SUPPORT SHOULD BE CONTINUED BEYOND 1977 AND SUGGESTED THAT MEETING OF DONOR AGENCIES WHICH WILL DECIDE ON CONTINUATION OF IERS BE HELD AT TIME OF NEXT SESSION OF COUNCIL SO MEMBERS CAN BE INFORMED OF FUTURE OF IERS.

B) COUNCIL WILL UNDERTAKE SURVEY OF ENTIRE IBE PUBLICATIONS PROGRAM INCLUDING IERS PUBLICATIONS AND REPORT ON FINDINGS AT NEXT SESSION OF COUNCIL.

4. FOLLOWING IS MEDIUM-TERM PROJECTION OF THE PROGRAM 1977-82 (C.XIII/4):

A) COUNCIL RAISED OBJECTIONS TO IBE PROGRAM SERVING ONLY THOSE UNESCO MEDIUM-TERM OBJECTIVES (5.1, 5.3, AND 5.4) LISTED IN PARA 5. SECRETARIAT WILL AMEND TEXT TO INCLUDE IBE SERVICE TO ALL SEVEN EDUCATION OBJECTIVES.

5. DRAFT PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR 1977-78 (C.XIII/5) FOLLOWS:

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A) REGULAR BUDGET EXPENDITURE WHICH DG WILL PROPOSE FOR IBE WILL BE DLS 1,978,142, AN INCREASE ( 5,8 PER CENT ) OF DLS 108,442 OVER 1975-76. BUDGET DISPLAY WAS JUDGED UNACCEPTABLE SO SECRETARIAT DEVELOPED A VERTICAL PRESENTATION.

B) COUNCIL DEBATED AT LENGTH ON SELECTION ON ONE OF THREE THEMES FOR 1979 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION: (1) IMPROVEMENT OF EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS AND MANAGEMENT AS A MEANS OF RAISING EFFICIENCY OF EDUCATION SO AS TO EXTEND OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN EDUCATION; (2) THE SCHOOL AS A SOCIAL INSTITUTION AND ITS ROLE IN NATIONAL ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT; (3) PLACE OF INFORMAL EDUCATION IN SYSTEM OF LIFELONG EDUCATION. COUNCIL VOTED 8 (US):4:3 AND WILL RECOMMEND FIRST OPTION ABOVE TO THE 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE.

C) COUNCIL DID NOT DISCUSS IN ANY CONCRETE FORM EXPANSION OF IBO ACTIVITIES. US REP MET PRIVATELY WITH FERNIG ON SUBJECT AND LEARNED THAT PRIOR TO COUNCIL MEETING, FERNIG REQUESTED OF DG AND ADG/ED THAT DLS260-270,000 BE TRANSFERRED FROM UNESCO REGULAR BUDGET TO IBE TO CONTRACT WITH IBO TO DEVELOP AN APPROPRIATE TESTING PROGRAM ( DLS 160,000 FOR STAFF, DLS50,000 FOR CONSULTANTS AND SUPPORT, AND DLS50,000 FOR DEVELOPMENT OF TESTING PROGRAM). FERNIG CLAIMED SUCH CONTRACT WOULD (1) REDUCE OVERLAP IN UNESCO ACTIVITIES AND (2) REDUCE UNESCO BUDGET BY APPROXIMATELY DLS 1 MILLION. DG AND ADG OPPOSED REQUEST, BUT DG WILL REFER THE RECOMMENDATION TO EXECUTIVE BOARD IN ITS SPRING SESSION. ALTHOUGH THIS PROPOSAL WAS NOT DISCUSSED IN COUNCIL MEETING, US REP FEELS THAT MOST COUNCIL MEMBERS WOULD SUPPORT SUCH A RECOMMENDATION.

6. COUNCIL ADOPTED A RESOLUTION TO INVITE DG TO CONTINUE HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH AUTHORITIES OF THE HOST COUNTRY (SWITZERLAND) TO LOCATE NEW QUARTERS FOR IBE.

4. THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED SESSION OF THE COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 17, 1977.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <17 JUN 2004 by schwenja>; APPROVED <03 DEC 2004 by greeneet>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**TAGS:** OCON, AORG, UNESCO, IBE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006